

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT AGENCY HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, ALASKA AND FORT RICHARDSON (PROV) 724 POSTAL SERVICE LOOP #6000 FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-6000

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: US Army Garrison, Alaska Holiday Safety Message

- 1. Thanksgiving weekend is the traditional beginning of the holiday season that extends through the end of the year. It is a special time when Soldiers, civilian employees and their families take time off to rest, relax and gather together to celebrate and give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy in this great nation. Whatever your plans, I urge each of you to take special care to remain safe.
- 2. As you celebrate and enjoy your time off, safety must be a top priority. Vehicle accidents continue to account for the majority of accidental deaths throughout the US Army and at this time of year, winter weather increases the risk of being involved in an accident. It is vital for commanders, directors and leaders at all levels to implement measures to mitigate risks and take steps to enhance safety throughout this holiday season. I urge you to conduct vehicle inspections to ensure privately owned vehicles are in proper working condition and meet safety standards. At safety briefings stress the importance of proper trip planning, the potential consequences of driving too fast for conditions, driver fatigue and drinking and driving. Remind everyone to buckle up and ensure small children are properly secured in a child safety seat.
- 3. Safety is everyone's responsibility. Leaders, fellow Soldiers and civilian employees must be alert, identify "at-risk" individuals and when necessary, intervene with appropriate action. Through positive leadership and personal involvement, we can raise safety awareness and help safeguard our personnel.
- 4. I wish all of you a safe and joyous holiday. Happy Thanksgiving- -- Be Safe!

DONNA G. BOLTZ

COL, MP

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